



# DECEMBER 25<sup>th</sup>



## On this day in...

**2019:** A strong thunderstorm generated a weak tornado over Ventura Harbor. Only very minor damage was reported.

**2007:** Strong Santa Ana winds struck the Inland Empire. Gusts reached 85 mph at Fremont Canyon (>58 mph for nine consecutive hours) and 58 mph at Ontario. Trees were downed, big rigs overturned, power outages resulted.

**2003:** A strong storm hit the region with the following rainfall amounts: 8.58 inches at Lytle Creek, 5.79 inches at Devore, 5.59 inches at Santiago Peak, 5.40 inches at Forest Falls, and 3.94 inches at Volcan Mountain. 0.35 inch to 2.5 inches fell at lower elevations. 16 died in mudslides and debris flows in areas burned by wildfires during the previous October: 14 in a church camp in Waterman Canyon north of San Bernardino and two in a campground in Devore.



This disastrous flash flood and debris flow hit Waterman Canyon just north of San Bernardino on this day in 2003.

**2000:** Santa Ana winds blew on this day and ended on 12/26. Gusts of 87 mph were measured at Fremont Canyon. Damage and injuries occurred in Mira Loma and in Orange County.

**1988:** A week of subfreezing temperatures hit Southern California starting on 12/24 and ending on 12/30. On 12/27 it was coldest, with most valleys down in the 20s, Big Bear Lake dropped to -2°, and Cuyamaca fell to 5°. Five died as a result of the cold.

**1987:** A cold snap descended on the region. It was 9° at Mt. Laguna and 22° in Valley Center on this day. On 12/26 it was 15° in Julian and Mt. Laguna, 16° in Campo, 22° in Poway, 25° in El Cajon (an all-time low), 30° in Del Mar, and 37° in San Diego. Extensive damage to avocado and citrus crops resulted.

**1971:** A series of wet storms hit the region during this week starting on 12/22 and ending on 12/28. 19.44 inches fell in Lake Arrowhead, 15.26 inches in Lytle Creek, 12/31 inches in Big Bear Lake, 7.49 inches in Palomar Mountain, 5.45 inches in San Bernardino, 4.98 inches in Santa Ana, 3.92 inches in Redlands, 3.04 inches in Riverside, 2.28 inches in San Diego, 1.24 inches in Palm Springs, and 1.02 inches in Victorville. Extensive street flooding occurred across the region. This day marked the start of seven consecutive days (the most on record) of measurable precipitation in Victorville, which ended on 12/28. This also occurred on 2/18-24/2005, 1/13-19/1993, and 2/14-20/1980.

**1953:** It was 23° in Palm Springs, the lowest temperature on record for December, and the third lowest on record.

**1940:** 4.02 inches of rain fell in Palm Springs, the greatest daily amount on record for December, and the second greatest daily amount on record (greatest: 4.57 inches on 1/23/1943).

**1921:** A succession of heavy storms from 12/17 to 12/27 produced a total of 29.38 inches at Mt. Wilson (only 1.48 inches had fallen there since 5/23). 30.64 inches fell at Squirrel Inn at Lake Arrowhead. From 12/24 to 12/26, 6.76 inches fell in L.A. Widespread flooding of roads, bridges, railroads, farms, etc., resulted. Lake Arrowhead rose seven feet. Flooded areas along the Santa Ana and San Gabriel Rivers were easily seen from atop Mt. Wilson from the coast to 20 to 30 miles inland.

**1891:** A period of very cold weather started on 12/23 and ended on 12/30. San Diego pools had ice 0.5 inch thick on the surface and ice one inch thick formed on oranges on trees in Mission Valley.